



The

# GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
July 2012 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 21, Issue 7



Field Day—June 2012

**JAPAN - USA - GERMANY**



See story—Page 3

# Message From The President

What a GREAT time we had a Field Day this year. As usual, it was quite hot, but I am pleased it was only in the 90s and not in the 100s like it was the following weekend. As usual, we ate well, worked the event continuously, made a boatload of contacts, got new folks on the air, and had a ton of fun doing it. Every year I am amazed at the GARS army and how efficient it is at getting setup, on-air, and broken down. David Adcock KA4KKF is our outstanding Field Day chairman and once again he did a splendid job of organizing the GARS army this year. I believe he told me we had sixteen antennas at our Field Day site this year. The extraordinary thing is we had everything up, in the air, and on the air in *just under two hours*! We basically idled for five or six hours waiting for the contest to begin – AMAZING!



Kyle Albritton—

I am pleased to announce that our May, “Satellites in the Park” practice-outing paid off with a Field Day satellite contact this year. We had a difficult and frustrating start, but we finally got the contact around 1:30AM Sunday morning. The “aimers” did a great job of hand-aiming in the dark and made it easy for the operators to do their part. After our precious satellite contact we took a deep breath and then efficiently broke down the station, having it all stowed by 2:00AM.

On the other side of the coin was the Field Day antenna build. I think we built 13 different Slim Jim antennas and it took us a very long time. It is not that the antenna design is difficult or time consuming to build, but we were making both roll-up and PVC (base) versions, in multiple bands. The one thing we can be sure of is that the folks building the antennas learned some skills, had a good time, and went home with some really well performing antennas.

There is a neat side note to the antenna build story. You see, at Field Day we have to send eleven messages digitally. We do this using the GARS packet network. Both the antenna and backup antenna normally used for this task could not contact the network from the park this year. We grabbed one of the 2m Slim Jim antennas we had *just built* and it made easy work of delivering the packet messages. I think we should get DOUBLE POINTS for sending our digital messages with an antenna *made on site*!

I cannot finish my brief Field Day recap without also thanking Gwinnett ARES. We at GARS have a very unique relationship with our ARES counterpart. We are separate corporations with different missions, yet we work so well together, and our joint Field Day effort is no exception. Their communications trailer is not only a prime contact maker, but it also provides an air conditioned oasis for overheated Field Day goers. Thank you Gwinnett ARES for your support and participation in our joint Field Day exercise.

We have a great meeting coming up about batteries. It is a meeting you will not want to miss. As always, may you have great health, wealth, and all your contacts be 59.

*Kyle* W4KDA



## Field Day 2012 Memories



# Field Day - 2012

## My Experience

By Ray—N4GYN

This Field Day was unique for me because I volunteered to be the first digital station to set up for FD. It was a lot of fun, and some angst as well, but I would do it all over again next year if our FD Chairman wishes. The angst was due to several software conflicts on the laptop I planned to use. I began doing a dry-run about a week before FD by setting up a card table in another room other than my “Shack” and taking all the pieces required for digital modes and re-assembling them there. I had a problem with using the laptop for Line-In signal levels, since it has only a Microphone-IN port. Fortunately, Windows 7 allows one to take the gain of that port down to a point where it can be used as Line-In without distortion. After connecting everything, (see diagram—next page) I started up Ham Radio Deluxe (HRD) and connected with my radio (an Icom 746PRO) for remote control.

Next, I ran MMTTY, an application that sends and receives RTTY (Radio Teletype). One of our members said I should try that since it's a free app. There were problems getting MMTTY to work with my RIGblaster digital adapter at first, but after a bit, I got the drivers for the USB to RS-232 adapter working and it worked just fine. However, I found that using MMTTY was awkward, especially for real-time keyboard messages (versus recorded Macros).

Then I ran DM-780 (Digital Master 780), another application executable from within HRD. This app will do a number of digital modes including RTTY and PSK. This program (app) allows you to use the established connection through HRD to key the radio to transmit mode. That function, however, means that you can't key the RIGblaster, and **you** have to put it in the VOX mode in order to get audio through to the mic input of the radio. Thank goodness, it also allows you to select direct control of the RIGblaster via its own port, so I had to purchase another USB to RS-232 adapter. My RIGblaster is one of the first ones made and has an RS-232 port. The newer laptop had no RS-232 ports. ;-)

Having purchased that, I was then able to key the radio through the RIGblaster and not use VOX, giving me separate control of the radio frequency and other settings while still keying the radio with the RIGblaster. Less conflict. Finally, I was ready to go, so I made up a drawing to help myself hook it up on Field Day (see next page). What a help that was. It would have been much more difficult without that drawing. Now mind you, it's not that complicated when you look at it, but it sure helped me keep the cables going to the right places.

A short explanation of digital modes is in order, for those who are new to such things. With such software as Ham Radio Deluxe or MMTTY (and others) and a computer with almost any sound card, we can now do almost any kind of digital modes. All you have to do is take the audio out (speaker output) of the radio to the Line-Input of the sound card. HRD then connects to your sound card and hears everything going into the Line-Input and translates the various modes into text, showing you the signals on a “waterfall”, or “spectrum”, image. The waterfall/spectrum image aids you in tuning the radio to the right audio frequency once you are on the correct radio frequency. RTTY users are found on xx.080 mostly, and up to about xx.100 (where xx is the band. i.e. 7 or 14 or 21, etc). PSK users are found on xx.070 up to xx.075. When

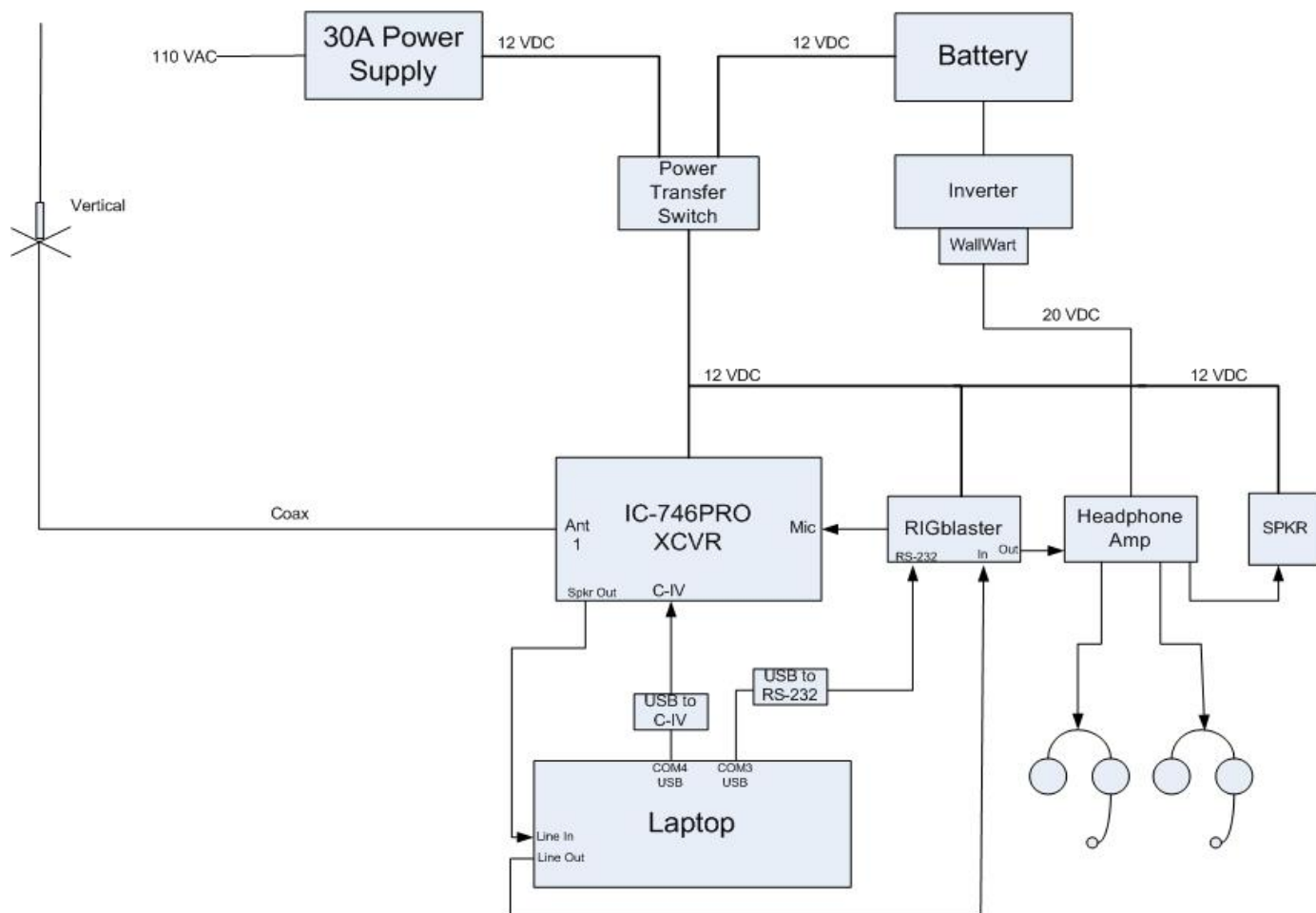
*(Continued on page 5)*



*(My Experience—Continued from page 4)*

tuned to a particular band, you will see several stations (if there is good activity on that band) across the audio spectrum of your radio and can use the mouse to select any signal by clicking on the one you want. The computer (HRD) will then decode that signal and you can then type a message responding to the operator of that signal when he finishes transmitting and click on TX to transmit what you have typed. It allows you to continue typing while transmitting and, in the case of HRD, will stop transmitting when you finish typing.

### N4GYN Digital Station Wiring Diagram



I should stop here, since I could write a book going into greater detail. But I hope this whets your appetite if you have never done digital modes. I would be happy to demonstrate this to anyone who would like to see it.

The band conditions during FD were very unreliable, and many stations didn't seem to hear me (or the others who volunteered to operate the digital station). I tried to do a "run" at first, with no luck, so I switched to "hunt and pounce" which seemed to do better. Around 2am Sunday morning, I/we had better luck with being heard and made the most contacts from around 2am to 4am when I finally succumbed to sleep for about 2 hours. I had two terrific guys helping me, and we made more digital (not CW) contacts than first expected.

*(Continued on page 8)*

# Life with an Active Antenna Launcher

Bug Bites – Thorns - Poison Ivy – Sweat - Rope Burns - Lost Tennis Balls

New Friends -New Antennas in the air - Different Launch Challenges

Practice - A lot of conversation - Sucker of a friend that helps most every installation

Wouldn't have it any other way!

Launcher Construction Photos: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/photos/album/1984736598/pic/list>



*Norm* - WA4ZXV

Note: Without this terrific device, Field Day antenna setup would take a LOT longer! Way to go, Norm! Ed.

# CTCSS - what's it all about?

"That repeater uses 'Tone'." "This repeater uses 'Tone'." "What's TONE?"

In amateur radio repeater systems, it is common for the repeaters receiver to be set to only pass transmissions which are encoded with a specified sub-audible tone. The reason is that there are often other repeater systems in the vicinity that may be using the same repeater frequencies. The repeaters are generally separated by enough space/distance that this type of interference isn't a problem except when a mobile is between two towers on the same frequency. To reduce the interference, we use a "sub audible tone". It keeps the repeater's receiver from passing communications which is not directed to that specific repeater.

**Continuous Tone-Coded Squelch System** or **CTCSS** is a circuit that is used to reduce the annoyance of listening to other users on a shared two-way radio communications channel. It is sometimes called **tone squelch**. Where more than one user group (or repeater) is on the same channel (called *co-channel users*), CTCSS filters out other users if they are using a different CTCSS tone or no CTCSS.

Receivers equipped with a CTCSS circuit usually have a switch that selects normal mode or CTCSS mode. When enabled, the CTCSS radio circuit, instead of opening the receive audio for any signal, causes the two-way radio receiver's audio to open only in the presence of the normal RF signal AND the correct sub-audible audio tone (sub-audible meaning that the receiver circuitry can detect it, but is not apparent to the users in the audio output). This is akin to the use of a lock on a door. A carrier squelch or noise squelch receiver not configured with CTCSS has no lock on its door and will let any signal in. A receiver with CTCSS circuitry (and with it enabled) locks out all signals except ones encoded with the correct tone. CTCSS can be regarded as a form of in-band signaling. Most every handheld or mobile VHF or UHF radio has had tone as a standard accessory for the past 15 years or so, the chances of your radio not having tone capabilities is probably fairly slim.

Programming the tone is another story. In most cases you'll need the manual, or a good friend that has done it several times on your model radio. Knowing which tone to use is generally available on the sponsoring clubs web site or you can look it up in the ARRL Repeater Directory. I found a fairly extensive listing on the web at <http://www.artscipub.com/repeaters/search/index.asp?state=Georgia>.

Norm WA4ZXV



The following is copied from:

<http://wiki.radioreference.com/index.php/CTCSS>

The **Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System**, commonly referred to as **CTCSS**, has been in used in the land mobile radio arena from the late 1960's. It is known by a number of different trade names such as **Private Line®** (PL) by Motorola, **Channel Guard®** (CG) by General Electric and generically as **tone squelch**.

It is the use of sub-audible tones that are transmitted along with the speech portion of the transmission which allows more than one agency (or fleet) to use the same radio frequency without causing undue interference to another agency on that frequency. Receivers for agency XYZ are set to only open their audio squelch when the proper sub-audible frequency tone is part of the transmission.

The land mobile industry started with some 38 sub-audible frequencies this has increased over the years to the more generally accepted 50. There is no generic standard tone number assignment or code letter to go with a particular tone; however, below is a table of the commonly accepted 50 tones used at this time.

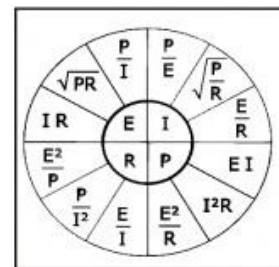
67.0	94.8	131.8	171.3	203.5
69.3	97.4	136.5	173.8	206.5
71.9	100.0	141.3	177.3	210.7
74.4	103.5	146.2	179.9	218.1
77.0	107.2	151.4	183.5	225.7
79.7	110.9	156.7	186.2	229.1
82.5	114.8	159.8	189.9	233.6
85.4	118.8	162.2	192.8	241.8
88.5	123.0	165.5	196.6	250.3
91.5	127.3	167.9	199.5	254.1

These programs will display the a detected CTCSS tone when audio output of a radio receiver is connected to Line-In of the sound card in your computer.

[ScanScope](http://www.coaa.co.uk/scanscope.htm) (<http://www.coaa.co.uk/scanscope.htm>)

[WinCTCSS](http://www.antistatic.org/winctcss/) (<http://www.antistatic.org/winctcss/>)

Ray N4GYN



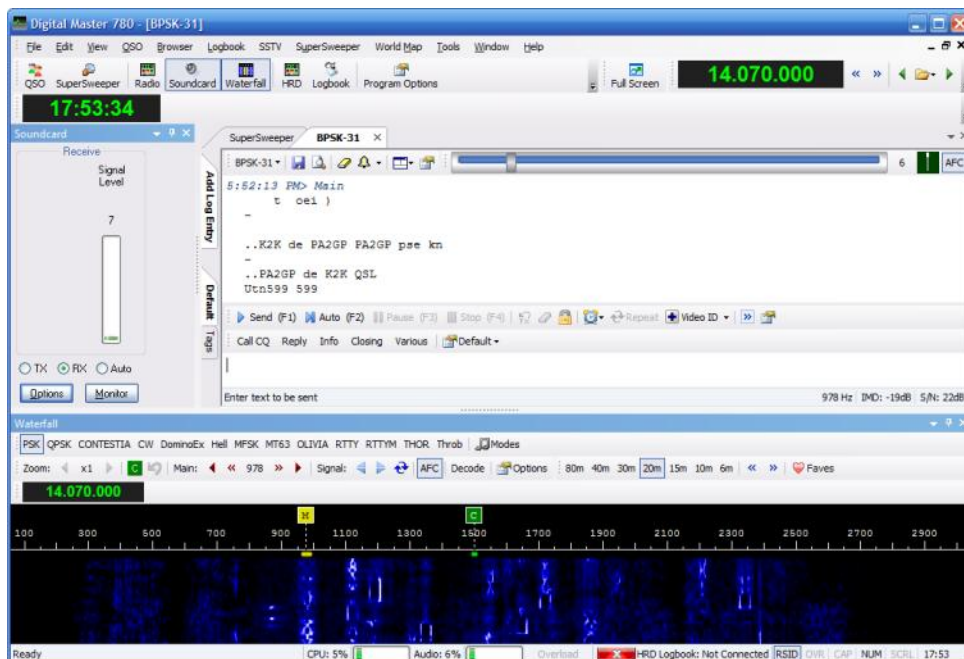
E = voltage I = current  
R = resistance P = power

(My Experience—Continued from page 5)

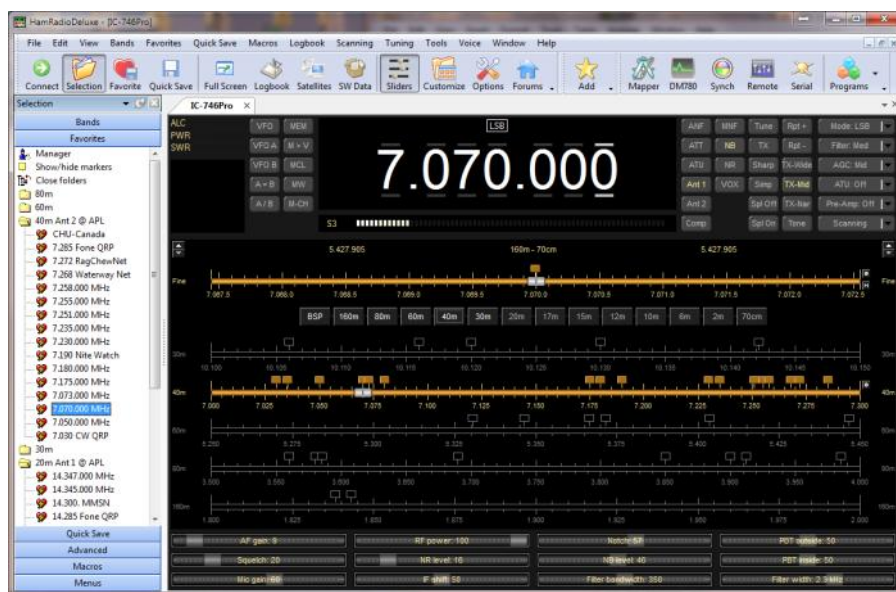
We used a vertical antenna, and that may have cross-polarized us with most other digital stations on the bands, making it harder to be heard. But, it did help somewhat with possible intermod problems between the other stations there around me. Next year, I would like to put up a Delta Loop on 40 meters and see how that works.

All in all, it was a terrific experience. Digital is another FUN mode of Ham Radio!

*Ray* - N4GYN



Example of PSK waterfall and decoding in DM-780



Example of HRD computer remote control



## Our Program for the July Meeting

# “Care and Feeding of Rechargeable Batteries” by Jim Krause, AB4CZ

**Don't miss it!**

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

It's that time of year again to celebrate with the boys of summer.



### **GARS Night At The G-Braves!**

It will be **Sunday, July 22nd, at 5:05p.** Our seats, as usual, are in Section 113 and are under cover. They are a little outside of the 1st base dugout.

The tickets are priced at **\$8.00ea**, which is a significant discount below the \$11.00 normally charged for this section.

The G-Braves will be playing the Scranton/WB Yankees.

Watch the GARS website for a Paypal link or see me in person for the tickets (2 GARS meetings between now and gametime).

Hope to see you there.

*Ralph* - KJ4CNC

Treasurer and Group Ticket Arranger



G-Braves Website: <http://www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t431>

Schedule for July: <http://www.milb.com/schedule/index.jsp?sid=t431&m=07&y=2012>



## NET MANAGERS CORNER

**Hello** Everyone from N4LNE GARS Net Manager.

I want to **thank everyone** for taking the time to check in to the nets and I especially wish to thank the NCS and ANCS stations for their time and effort.

Please **think about** adding your name to the list as NCS or ANCS.

### Monday Night Net Stats.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK INS</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>ANCS</u>
9/09/2012		Norm WA4ZXV	
7/02/2012	23	Sandy KJ4DRO	David KA4KKF
6/25/2012	31	John WB4QDX	Phil N4LNE
6/18/2012	24	Phil N4LNE	Jeff AB4HF
6/11/2012	16	Hal W4IGE	David KA4KKF
6/04/2012	32	Kyle W4KDA	Ralph KJ4CNC
5/28/2012	19	Norm WA4ZXV	Ralph KJ4CNC

### Thursday Night Net Stats

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK INS</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>ANCS</u>
7/5/2012		Dennis WB4TID	
6/28/2012	11	David ka4kkf	
6/21/2012	13	Dennis WB4TID	
6/14/2012	9	Phil N4LNE	
6/7/2012	8	Hal W4IGE	Kyle W4KDA
5/32/2012	12	Kyle W4KDA	Phil N4LNE

73' See you on the Nets!

*Phil* N4LNE  
Net Manager

### GARS Membership

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership,  
please visit our website - <http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.),  
please email the Membership Chairman - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can renew or update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free  
- <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

## METRO ATLANTA AMATEUR RADIO NETS

### Daily

146.76 MHz PL107.2/145.45 Noon Brown Bag Net  
146.79 MHz PL110.9 8:00 PM Sassafras Mtn.  
3.795 MHz 6:00 PM WX & Skywarn

### Sunday

7.275 MHz 9:00 AM Georgia Traders Net  
3.975 MHz 5:00 PM Winter PM GA State ARES  
146.520 5:00-6:00 PM Emergency Simplex  
145.450 7:00 PM Alford Mem. RC Roundtable  
147.060+ 8:30 PM No. Fulton ARES  
146.820- PL146.2 7:30 PM Atlanta Radio Club Net  
147.105+ PL100.0 8:30 PM ATL C.A.R.E.S Net  
146.700- PL123.0 4:30 PM Jasper Radio Club  
50.145 Simplex 9:00 PM Six Meter Net

### Monday

145.450- PL107.2 8:00 PM Decatur A.R.E.S. Net  
145.470- PL100.0 8:30 PM North Fulton Tech. Net  
50.235 USB 8:30 PM Regional Six Meter Net  
145.430 - PL107.2 8:00 PM Cherokee ARES  
146.880 - PL100.0 8:00 PM Cobb Co. A.R.E.S. NET  
147.210+ PL162.2 9:00 PM Rockdale Co. ARES  
147.075+ PL 82.5 8:00 PM Gwinnett **G.A.R.S.**  
147.075+ PL 82.5 9:00 PM Gwinnett **A.R.E.S.**

### Tuesday

146.625- PL123.7 8:00 PM S Fulton ARES  
146.895+ PL 77.0 8:00 PM Dallas  
147.240+ PL103.5 8:00 PM Bartow Co. ARES  
147.150+ 8:00 PM Forsyth Co. ARES

### Wednesday

145.41 - 8:00 PM Chapter 49, QCWA Net  
145.15 - 8:00 PM GA Tech Stinger Net.  
146.67 - PL131.0 8 8:00 PM Hall Co. ARES Net

### Thursday

146.955 - PL77.0 7:00 PM Digital Silver CometARS  
146.955 - PL77.0 8:00 PM, Paulding ARES.  
145.270 - PL100.0 8:00 PM, Cherokee Am. Radio Soc.  
146.88 - PL100.0 8:30 PM, Kennehooshee ARC Net  
147.225+ - 8:00 PM, NE GA ARC  
147.15+ - 8:00 PM, Swap Net  
147.015- PL100.0 9:00 PM, N GA Disaster Relief Team  
147.39+ - PL131.8 9:00 PM Thomaston Net

### Friday

145.11 - PL88.5 8:00 PM Douglas Co. ARES  
147.015 - PL100.0 6:00 PM N GA Disaster Net  
146.76 - PL107.2 Midnight Turnip Truck Net

### Saturday

7.275 MHz 9:00 AM GA Traders Net  
3.857 MHz 9:00 AM Chapter 49, QCWA Net  
146.760- PL107.2 12:00 AM Midnight Turnip Truck Net  
147.015- PL100.0 10:00 PM Hoot Owl Net

## Ham Radio Exams New Licenses & Upgrades

### 2nd Sunday of Every Month starting promptly at 2:00 pm

Primary areas served: Gwinnett County, GA  
and the surrounding area

Sponsor: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
(GARS)

Talk-In: GARS Repeater on 147.075(+) MHz,  
Tone 82.5 Hz

### Location:

Gwinnett County Fire Station #5  
Community Room – 3001 Old Norcross Road  
Duluth, GA 30096

Map: [http://maps.google.com/maps?  
q=33.9566,-84.1078](http://maps.google.com/maps?q=33.9566,-84.1078)

### VE Contact:

Dave Bruse W4DTR

E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

Phone: 770-623-0149

### What to bring:

- A Photo ID. (Driver's license, Student ID, Passport, etc.)
- Minors must have 2 forms of ID and SS number.
- Your original license and two (2) copies of the original license.
- Your original CSCE and two (2) copies for any outstanding elements passed.
- A pen and a pencil with eraser.
- Calculators with memory must be cleared. Cell phones are not allowed.
- Current Exam Fee is \$14.00. Cash only. Checks are not accepted.
- Walk-ins are welcome.

*No pre-registration  
required.*

**VEC: W5YI-VEC**

*Dave Bruse* W4DTR

Email: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)





# GARS Email Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>

Join the GARS Yahoo Group if you are not already a member. To do so, go to the GARS Yahoo Group web site (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>) and then click on the Join This Group! link on the main page.

If you have joined the group, you can Post a message by sending an email to [GARS@yahoogroups.com](mailto:GARS@yahoogroups.com)

The Yahoo Group is for GARS friends and members to share information, ask questions, and make announcements.

This is your group and each member is welcome to post questions or comments relating to amateur radio. Use it! With all the new hams in the area, this is great place to ask for help. There's someone out there reading the emails that can help.

Also, join us on **facebook**: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681/>

**To Learn & Have Fun**



- **147.075+ 82.5**
- Meetings 2nd Tuesday Jan-Nov
- Multiple nets every week
- Gigantic Field Day
- Large, Active, Diverse Club
- Family Oriented

**www.gars.org**



**Hands-Only™  
CPR**

**1**



**Call 911**

**2**



**Push hard and fast in  
the center of the chest.**  
Learn more at [handsonlycpr.org](http://handsonlycpr.org)

American Heart  
Association



Learn and Live

## The GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to [n4gyn@arrl.net](mailto:n4gyn@arrl.net). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

*The GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, W4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 25th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN  
770-689-6620 or [n4gyn@arrl.net](mailto:n4gyn@arrl.net)

**JOIN ARRL  
- OR -  
RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP  
THROUGH GARS**



Help the GARS Treasury by applying for ARRL membership or renewing your ARRL membership through GARS. By applying for ARRL membership through GARS we are able to keep \$15.00 of each new membership fee for our Treasury. We can keep \$2.00 from each renewal.

Show your support for both organizations by applying through GARS.

Ralph Pickwick – KJ4CNC, GARS Treasurer, will have the ARRL applications at the monthly meetings for your use. We only ask that you don't wait until the last minute to renew, as we will only be sending the applications to ARRL on a monthly basis. We will only be accepting personal checks with the applications (no PayPal).

If you have any questions concerning this process, please contact Ralph at KJ4CNC@arrl.net.



**UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR**

**Southeast US**



**07/21/2012 | Covington Georgia Hamfest**

**Location:** Covington, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Newton County Radio Club

**08/18/2012 | Southeastern Division Convention (Huntsville Hamfest)**

**Location:** Huntsville, AL

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Huntsville Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.hamfest.org>

**08/25/2012 | Southeast ARA's 1st Annual Hamfest**

**Location:** Swainsboro, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Southeast Amateur Radio Association

**Website:** <http://www.kj4mks.com>

**09/01-02/2012 | 56th Annual Shelby Hamfest**

**Location:** 1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy, Dallas, NC

**Type:** General

**Sponsor:** Shelby Amateur Radio Club (SARC)

**Website:** <http://shelbyhamfest.org/>

**10/13/2012 | ARC of Augusta, GA Hamfest**

**Location:** Blythe, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Amateur Radio Club of Augusta

**Website:** <http://w4dv.org>

**10/13/2012 | LaGrange Hamfest**

**Location:** LaGrange, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** LaGrange Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.lagrangeradioclub.org>

# BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology, **Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ Camping
- ◊ Hiking
- ◊ Horseback Riding
- ◊ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

**Steve Back, WB2OGY**

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

**Jeff Lee, AF4JL**

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: [advisor@venturecrew73.org](mailto:advisor@venturecrew73.org)



## GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA  
President



Earl Whatley, AF4FG  
Vice President



Hal Collier, W4IGE  
Secretary



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC  
Treasurer, Apparel Manager



Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO  
Program Manager



Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Membership Chairman, VE Team



David Adcock, KA4KKF  
Webmaster, Field Day Chairman



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ  
Public Information Officer

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV  
TechFest Chairman



Ray Bailey, N4GYN  
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF  
Multimedia Chairman



Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN  
W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM  
Repeater Chairman



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
WAS-Checker



Phil McCleary, N4LNE  
Net Manager



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI  
Technical Advisor



## GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater  
147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

APRS  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

D-Star  
WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

Main Repeater Site  
Oak Street,  
Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater  
147.255(+) MHz  
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater  
53.110 (-1 MHz)  
82.5 PL Tone

70 Cm Repeaters  
444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone  
442.100(+)  
82.5 PL Tone

Backup Repeater Site  
Lanier Mountain,  
Snellville



**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in July:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!  
From All of Us at GARS**

**Richard Barnes (W4IXN)  
Dwight Bronnum (KE4OWF)  
William (Bill) Cohl (WB2PIH)  
Jeffery Cutchins (AB4HF)  
Cate Donoghue (K8TFU)  
Ryan Haney (KJ4DRN)  
Terry Jones (W4TL)  
Brian Jones (KD4UYP)  
Paul Kelley (W4KLY)  
Charlotte Matchette (KE4OSR)  
Rob Osattin (KI4UTY)  
William (Bill) Pierce (K1LP)  
Lowry Rouse Jr (KM4Z)  
Stephen Schreiman (KJ4MWF)  
Sid Weaver (N4NQ)  
Randy Woolery (KK4CRL)**

### **GARS Recurring Calendar**

- ♦ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm
- ♦ Every Monday at 8pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ♦ Every Thursday at 9pm: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters
- ♦ Every Saturday at 7:30am: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

## **Meeting Minutes GARS General Meeting June 12th, 2012**

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, GARS President, called the meeting to order at 7:17pm at Sweetwater Park after our ice cream social.

Introductions of first time visitors and others present.

Treasurer's Report – Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC

Membership – Hal Collier, W4IGE, reported the following:  
William Bentley, KJ4MXM, voted in as new member  
William Pettit, K4ENQ, voted in as new member  
Richard Latty, KC4PLT, voted in as new member  
Donald Ruane, KK4JJP, voted in as new member  
GARS has 210 active members

Program Manager – Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO, announced:

- ♦ **July's program** will be "Care and Feeding of Rechargeable Batteries" by Jim Krause, AB4CZ.
- ♦ **August's program** will be "The Original Text Machine - A Marriage of Old and New Technology" by Steve Garrison, N4TTY.
- ♦ **September's program** will be "ARISS (Amateur radio international space station)" by John Kludt, K4SQ.
- ♦ **October's program** will be "Massive Homebrew Show and Tell".

Earl Whatley, AF4FG, reminded everyone to send in their May Madness contest logs to AF4FG@ARRL.NET.

Earl Whatley, AF4FG, thanked everyone who helped with the Dacula Memorial Day Parade on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced that on June 19th at GJAC June 17-23 will be declared "Amateur Radio Week" in Gwinnett County.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, thanked everyone who helped at the Atlanta Hamfest. He also thanked everyone who helped at the EAA Ford Tri-Motor event.

David Adcock, KA4KKF, went over details for Field Day which is June 23-24.

Prize Drawing

There were 57 attendees at the meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:00 pm

*Hal Collier* W4IGE, Secretary



## What's new on the WEB SITE?

- ♦ The web site upgrade is coming along. It is a Joomla version 2.5. After the web site was re-directing, I had to shut every thing down and check for malicious code in every file. I found some script in one of our files and reported it to our web hoster.
- ♦ I am continually trying to check all articles and pictures. If you have kept up with the yahoo group mail list, you have seen suggestions on web surfing. If you have suggestions or articles, please submit them to the [webmaster@gars.org](mailto:webmaster@gars.org)

Thank you for you patience.

- ♦ Do you get the GARZETTE from the web site? It's in the File Download menu selection in the Newsletter Folder.

73,

*David* KA4KKF

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 8pm GARS 2m Net	3 6:30pm GARS Exec Meeting	4 Independence Day	5 9pm GARS ROUND TABLE NET	6	7 7:30am Breakfast at Golden Coral on Riverside Drive
8	9 8pm GARS 2m Net	10 5pm Dinner at the Flying Machine 7pm GARS Meeting	11	12 9pm GARS ROUND TABLE NET	13	14 7:30am Breakfast at Golden Coral on Riverside Drive
15	16 8pm GARS 2m Net	17	18	19 9pm GARS ROUND TABLE NET	20	21 7:30am Breakfast at Golden Coral on Riverside Drive
22	23 8pm GARS 2m Net	24	25	26 9pm GARS ROUND TABLE NET	27	28 7:30am Breakfast at Golden Coral on Riverside Drive
29	30 8pm GARS 2m Net	31				

Phases of the moon: 3:○ 10:● 19:● 26:●

Holidays and Observances: 4: Independence Day

## Metro Testing Sessions

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrrl-ga.org>.

### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)  
WCARS VEC  
Braselton Public Utility Building  
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA  
Roger Gibson, WB4T  
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
WCARS VEC  
Johnson High School  
3305 Poplar Springs Rd, Gainesville, GA  
Perry Roper, KO4RD  
(770) 536-3056

### Second Saturday, ODD Months

ARRL VEC  
8:30 a.m.  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Varone, W4ETN  
(770) 978-3179

### Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm (effective Jan 2012)  
Gwinnett County Fire Station #5  
3001 Old Norcross Road  
Duluth, GA 30096  
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Email: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

### Third Saturday

VEC: W5YI  
3 pm (Except December)  
Auburn City Hall Council Room  
1369 Fourth Avenue  
Auburn, GA  
Steve Donellan, N5SMD  
(404) 520-0368

(cont. next column)

## Ham Exam Results for June, 2012

We had an excellent exam session on Field Day.

13 Tests administered.  
5 applicants passed.

Ham exam results:

- 2 new Technicians
- 3 upgraded to Extra

Thanks to the VEs who made this exam session possible:

- Bill Cherepy,	WB4WTN
- Mark Fehlig,	WA6NGC
- Jeff Cutchins,	AB4HF
- Frank Sauciunas,	KF4TQV
- Karen Prescott,	KJ4VQI
- Larry Whitehead,	WB4FGF
- Will Perkins,	W1ZRV
- Brian Page,	N4TRB
- Robert Lee,	AF4JL
- Sid Weaver,	N4NQ

Thanks & 73,

*Dave Bruse* W4DTR

Email: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)  
GARS VE Website:  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ARRL\\_VE\\_Team/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ARRL_VE_Team/)

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC  
7 pm @ United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770) 942-6466

### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech  
VanLeer Elec. Building  
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.  
See [www.w4aql.com](http://www.w4aql.com)  
Alexander G. Carver  
(404) 894-2936  
[acarver@ece.gatech.edu](mailto:acarver@ece.gatech.edu)

## Metro Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC  
Downtown Marietta  
Fire Station #1, Training Room  
112 Haynes Street  
Marietta, Georgia 30060  
Meeting begins at 7:00pm  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club  
Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30pm  
Talk In -146.820(-)  
N.E. Georgia ARC  
Commerce Public Library  
Meeting is at 6:30pm  
Talk In - 147.225(+)  
PL 123.0

### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC  
Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical  
Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00pm

### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Intersection of Annistown  
Rd & Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00pm  
Meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club  
Board Room of The  
Shepherd Center at  
2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta  
at 10:00 AM

### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio  
League  
Masonic Lodge  
194 Milton Avenue  
Alpharetta, Georgia  
meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more, go to: <http://www.gars.org/>



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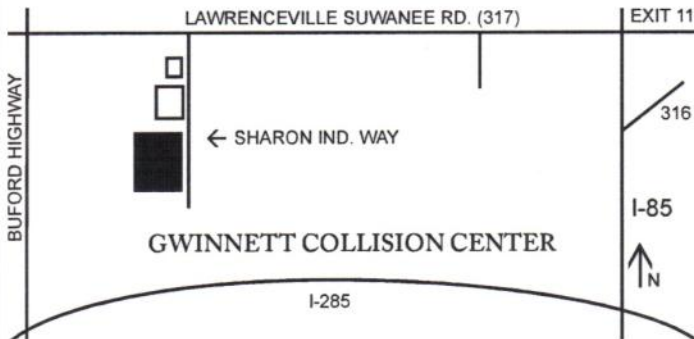
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Contact Club Treasurer  
Ralph Pickwick KF4CJC - [kj4cnc@arrl.net](mailto:kj4cnc@arrl.net)  
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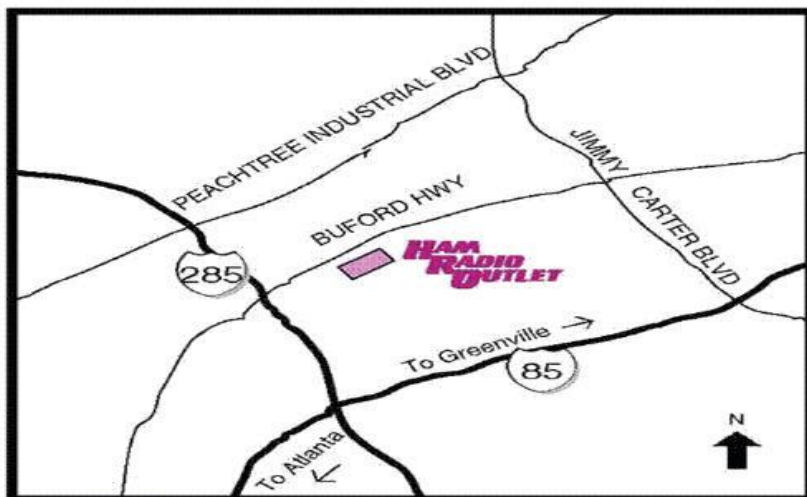
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